

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT**

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

ON

AIR TOXICS “HOT SPOTS” PROGRAM RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES

July 21, 2000

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is releasing a revised chronic summary document for Methyl Ethyl Ketone, which was one of the chronic Reference Exposure Levels (RELs) endorsed by the ARB's Scientific Review Panel on February 1, 2000. The summary is part of the *Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Risk Assessment Guidelines Part III: Technical Support Document for the Determination of Noncancer Chronic Reference Exposure Levels*. The original draft document, which included a proposed REL for methyl ethyl ketone of 1000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, was released in October 1997. Comments on the draft REL were received from the public. Staff subsequently revised the REL to 10,000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and released the revised REL during a second comment period in June 1999. No public comments were received on the revised value. During the period of SRP review staff were made aware of a recent epidemiological study of methyl ethyl ketone in the scientific literature and revised the REL to 500 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, which the Panel endorsed. A member of the public pointed out that the revised value was significantly different than the last public review draft and requested an opportunity to comment. Thus the documentation for this chemical is being released for a further public comment.

The chronic REL summary for methyl ethyl ketone is available on the OEHHA Home Page at <http://www.oehha.ca.gov>. The distribution of this document on methyl ethyl ketone will commence a 30-day public review period, only for this chemical, that will start July 24 and end on August 23.

Please direct any inquiries concerning technical matters or availability of the document to Dr. James Collins at (510) 622-3146. Please direct your written comments regarding the revised draft document to Dr. Andrew G. Salmon, Chronic RELs, 1515 Clay St., 16th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612. Information about dates and agenda for meetings of the Scientific Review Panel can be obtained from the ARB web page at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/srp/srp.htm>.